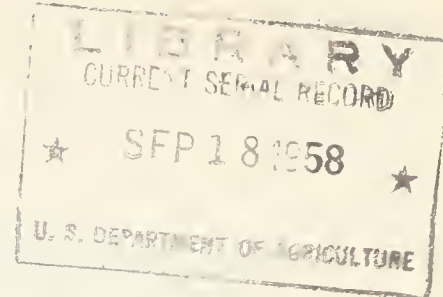


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Foreign



CROPS AND MARKETS

FOR RELEASE, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1958

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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NEW PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO U. S. FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE

Available (single copies) free to persons in the U. S. from the Foreign Agricultural Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C., Room 5922. Phone: REpublic 7-4142, Ext. 2445.

Tobacco Harvest in Second Half of 1958 to be Down Slightly in Northern Hemisphere. Foreign Agriculture Circular FT 7-58.

World Sugar Exports up 10 Percent in 1957. Foreign Agriculture Circular FS 4-58.

Milk Production and Utilization in Principal Producing Countries in 1957. Foreign Agriculture Circular FD 6-58.

U. S. CIGARETTE EXPORTS RISING

From January through June 1958, U. S. exports of cigarettes totaled 8,705 million pieces--up 8.5 percent from shipments in the first half of 1957.

There were increases in exports to Cuba, the Netherlands Antilles, Venezuela, Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, Belgium-Luxembourg, Italy, Kuwait, Malaya, Hong Kong, and a few less important markets. Decreases occurred in exports to Canada, Panama, Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, France, and West Germany.

Exports in the first half of 1958 were equivalent to 3.8 percent of total U.S. cigarette production in that period. The average declared export value was \$4.22 per 1,000 pieces.

CIGARETTES: U. S. exports, by principal countries of destination,
January-June 1956-58

Country of destination	January-June		
	1956	1957	1958
	----- Million pieces -----		
Canada.....	148.7	153.6	147.6
Panama, Republic of.....	257.7	287.7	108.4
Cuba.....	163.4	194.5	205.7
Netherlands Antilles.....	145.8	138.2	311.8
Colombia.....	144.6	18.8	132.9
Venezuela.....	922.0	1,063.6	1,415.4
Ecuador.....	142.8	210.4	215.4
Peru.....	82.1	106.6	128.2
Sweden.....	366.5	306.1	277.8
Denmark.....	162.6	239.9	210.0
Netherlands.....	204.7	238.4	203.8
Belgium-Luxembourg.....	215.0	296.0	450.6
France.....	394.8	603.5	505.5
Germany, West.....	218.1	279.1	194.8
Italy.....	184.6	193.9	227.2
Kuwait.....	170.7	176.9	249.9
Malaya.....	347.8	378.0	478.0
Hong Kong.....	419.1	517.6	575.0
Morocco <u>1</u> /.....	678.8	959.9	943.0
Others.....	2,248.3	1,657.9	1,724.2
Total.....	7,618.1	8,020.6	8,705.2
Value (1,000 dollars).....	28,373	31,057	36,778

1/ Includes Tangier.

Compiled from Bureau of the Census records.

RHODESIA SETS GOAL OF 185 MILLION POUNDS FOR 1959 FLUE-CURED CROP

The Rhodesian Tobacco Association has set a target of 185 million pounds for 1959 flue-cured tobacco production. This would be about 25 million pounds larger than the estimated 160-million-pound crop of 1958, and the largest crop yet produced.

Growers have been advised that at least 60 percent of the crop should be grades in demand on the U. K. and Australian markets. No increase in acreage is considered necessary to produce 185 million pounds.

GREEK TOBACCO EXPORTS DOWN

Greek exports of unmanufactured tobacco during the first 3 months of 1958 totaled 27.8 million pounds--down 43 percent from exports of 48.6 million in the corresponding period of 1957.

Most of the decline this year was in shipments to Austria, Belgium-Luxembourg, Egypt, France, Italy, and West Germany. Italy took no Greek tobacco in January-March 1958, compared with 4.5 million pounds last year; West Germany took only 6.2 million pounds this year, and 18.4 million in the January-March 1957 period. The United States sharply increased its imports in January-March 1958, taking more than 13 million pounds, compared with 8 million a year ago.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: Greece, exports by country of destination,
January-March 1957-58

Country of destination	January-March	
	1957	1958
	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>
Austria.....	4,431	2,886
Belgium-Luxembourg.....	2,209	315
Czechoslovakia.....	966	772
Egypt.....	2,249	194
France.....	474	0
Germany, East.....	553	293
Germany, West.....	18,441	6,232
Hungary.....	1,442	77
Italy.....	4,517	0
Soviet Union.....	2,048	2,092
United States.....	7,978	13,106
Others.....	3,246	1,824
Total.....	48,554	27,791

Source: Monthly Bulletin of External Trade Statistics.

TURKEY ABANDONS PRODUCTION OF HASAN KAYF TOBACCO

Production of Hasan Kayf tobacco in Turkey stopped in 1957. Hasan Kayf, a variety of *Nicotiana Rustica* grown in southern Turkey, is used primarily in water pipes. As it is no longer in export demand, the export cooperative is being liquidated.

ITALY EXPECTS LARGER TOBACCO CROP THIS YEAR

Although Italian farmers' plantings of 139,700 acres of tobacco this year are about 10 percent more than in 1957, monopoly officials expect less than a 5-percent increase in total production--179.2 million pounds, compared with 171.1 million in 1957. The 1958 harvest, however, will probably be the largest in several years.

Production of dark air-cured tobacco is expected to show the largest increase--from 26.9 million pounds in 1957 to 31.8 million in 1958. The harvest of dark fire-cured tobacco will rise to 31.8 million pounds, up 2.1 million from 1957. Flue-cured and oriental are expected to gain, but not as much as the dark tobaccos. The Burley crop, however, will probably drop to 24.0 million pounds, down 1.6 million from 1957.

SWOLLEN-SHOOT CACAO DISEASE FOUND IN SIERRA LEONE

Plant pathologists report that they have found the swollen-shoot virus of cacao in northwest Sierra Leone near the Liberian border. This is the first time that the virus has been isolated in Sierra Leone, and the discovery is considered of major importance to the future of cacao in Sierra Leone and Liberia.

BARBADOS 1958 SUGAR PRODUCTION DOWN

The 1958 sugar output of the Barbados, including fancy molasses, is now officially estimated at 152,900 long tons (171,248 short tons), which is a considerable reduction from last year's record crop of 204,525 long tons (229,068 short tons). The drop was caused by drought from last December through April, a 6-week strike of sugar cane workers, and an above-average number of cane fires.

As a result of abundant rainfall from May through August, the new cane crop is in excellent condition, and if favorable weather continues, the 1959 crop should exceed 200,000 long tons (224,000 short tons).

About 11,200 short tons of Barbados output are used locally, and 141,120 short tons have a guaranteed market under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement.

NIGERIA SETS 1958-59 PRODUCER PRICES FOR CACAO

The Western region of Nigeria has set 1958-59 producers prices for cacao at ₦ 150 per long ton. This is equivalent to about 18.75 cents per pound, and is the same as the 1957-58 price. The Southern Cameroons Marketing Board producer price has been increased to ₦ 175 per ton (U.S. 21.87 cents per pound). The Western region produces about 90 percent of Nigeria's total cacao crop, and the Southern Cameroons about 6 percent.

COLOMBIA BARTERS COFFEE FOR SYRIAN WHEAT

Under a barter transaction negotiated with Syria by the National Coffee Growers Federation, Colombia received 9,500 metric tons of Syrian wheat on August 19. Colombia will pay for the wheat with \$1.1 million worth of coffee. The wheat arrived at a time when Colombian supplies were dangerously low.

Colombia is now planning a barter agreement with Denmark involving the exchange of coffee for grain silos, which would help solve a long-standing grain storage problem.

U. S. DOUBLES ISTLE IMPORTS IN 1957

U. S. imports of istle, or Tampico, in 1957 were 1,575 long tons valued at \$464,800, according to revised data of the Bureau of the Census. This is a comparatively large increase over 1956, but is much less than the average of 1951-55. The corrected figure for 1957 is a major revision from the preliminary figure of 34,750 tons. Corresponding revisions should be made for istle and for affected totals in the tables published in Foreign Crops and Markets, August 18, 1958.

ARGENTINA RE-ESTABLISHES CEILING PRICES ON FOOD

Because of a continuing rise in the cost of living, the Argentine Government, by decree of August 11, 1958, established ceiling prices for the Buenos Aires area on a number of essential food items. These included edible oil, rice, sugar, spaghetti, flour, milk, butter, bread, and ordinary wine. The decree also fixed the mark-up on other food items, including meat, at 30 percent.

Power to set ceiling prices on other foods, including fruit, potatoes, fish, and eggs, was delegated to the City of Buenos Aires. In addition, wage increases beyond the 60-percent increase granted in May were prohibited until November 30, 1958, unless the cost of living rises more than 10 percent over the July 1958 level.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC LIFTS BAN ON FRUIT AND VEGETABLE IMPORTS FROM FLORIDA

The Dominican Republic has lifted its ban on imports of fruits and vegetables from or through Florida. Entrance of these products will be permitted if the importer first obtains an import permit.

The ban had been in effect since the outbreak of the Mediterranean fruit fly in Florida in the spring of 1956, and has been lifted as the result of the pest's eradication.

EUROPEAN DRY PEA CROP HURT BY RAINS

The 1958 dry pea crop in Europe has been damaged by heavy rains. There is no official estimate of the damage, but rainfall was excessive in all major producing countries. The crop in France, one of the smaller producers, is indicated unofficially to be only 50 percent of normal. Similar, though possibly not such severe damage is indicated in other countries.

DANES ESTABLISH FUND FOR MEAT PROMOTION

To create a fund for promotion of Danish pork and other hog products, Denmark's Agricultural Marketing Board has been authorized to collect a fee on all hogs slaughtered commercially. The current levy is 6 kroner (87¢) per head.

FRENCH DEVELOPING NEW SYSTEM FOR MEAT DISTRIBUTION

Recent French decrees organizing nationwide programs for the distribution of meats, fruits, and vegetables are designed to narrow the wide spread between producer and retail prices. This is to be achieved chiefly by reducing the number of middlemen.

Specialized wholesale markets for meat are to be established at Paris (La Villette), Le Mans, Bourges, Nimes, and Marseilles. They are to be served by highway and railroad, have modern handling and storage facilities, and be serviced by a commercial market news system. The markets will be run either by a state body or an organization representing both the state and private industry under the overall direction of the prefect of the department in which they are located. The government has legal power to reorganize the Paris wholesale food market at Les Halles. All meat marketing is expected to be transferred from Les Halles to La Villette, northeast of Paris.

Since marketing of produce in France has traditionally been chaotic, the proposed actions are welcomed by many, but strong opposition is expected from entrenched interests which have previously blocked similar constructive proposals.

PAKISTAN'S WOOL EXPORTS UP SHARPLY IN 1957

Pakistan's exports of raw wool rose sharply from 26.2 million pounds, actual weight, in 1956 to 37.2 million pounds in 1957. Strong overseas demand and higher prices resulted in almost a total clearance of stocks on hand. Exports in 1958 will probably be smaller, as shipments in January-June were only 9.1 million pounds.

Most of Pakistan's carpet wool exports go to the United States and the United Kingdom. In 1957, the United States took 24.0 million pounds and the United Kingdom, 11.9 million pounds.

U. S. LARD IMPORTS TO U. K. DECLINE IN FIRST 6 MONTHS

The United Kingdom's imports of lard during January-June 1958 declined about 6 percent in volume compared to the same period in 1957.

At the same time, U. S. lard exports to the United Kingdom declined almost 22 percent. The U. S. share of U. K. imports was 55 percent in January-June 1958, against 66 percent in the same period of 1957.

Increased exports from Denmark, the Netherlands, and France were responsible for most of the proportional decline in the importance of U. S. exports.

LARD: United Kingdom imports by country of origin, percent of total, and average price per pound, January-June 1957 and 1958

Country of origin	January-June 1957			January-June 1958		
	Quantity	Percent	Average	Quantity	Percent	Average
	of total	of total	price	of total	of total	price
	1,000	1,000	U.S. cents	1,000	1,000	U.S. cents
	pounds	pounds	per pound	pounds	pounds	per pound
Sweden.....	86:	0.1	: .1726	1,219:	1.0	: .1250
Denmark.....	8,321:	6.6	: .18.2	11,269:	9.4	: .1481
Netherlands.....	6,437:	5.1	: .1648	11,948:	10.0	: .1393
Belgium.....	13,414:	10.6	: .1381	13,231:	11.1	: .1241
France.....	11,050:	8.7	: .1443	15,446:	13.0	: .1273
United States.....	84,115:	66.4	: .1740	65,699:	55.0	: .1523
Argentina.....	2,829:	2.2	: .1496	130:	0.1	: .1322
Germany, West.....	258:	0.2	: .1436	289:	0.2	: .1307
Other.....	125:	0.1	: .1752	223:	0.2	: .1326
Total.....	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total.....	126,635:	100.0	:	119,454:	100.0	:

Source: U. S. Packers Provision Agents' Committee, United Kingdom.

ARGENTINE MEAT SHIPMENTS TO U. K. LAGGING

Argentine meat shipments to Britain are behind schedule, due to small marketings of cattle at packing plants. Deliveries between August 11 and September 28 were originally estimated at 35,000 tons but have already been reduced at least 4,000 tons. The lag in deliveries is not expected to affect U. S. imports of canned beef from Argentina.

Packers are concerned about the situation, as they must pay their employees for a minimum working day of 6-3/4 hours even though some employees are working less. Argentine cattle marketings in the first half of 1958 dropped 30 percent from a year earlier. More cattle were sold at the Laniers market this year than last, but packers bought fewer direct from ranchers.

WEST GERMAN LARD IMPORTS DROP; U. S. SHARE SMALLER

Imports of lard by West Germany in the first 6 months of 1958 declined 19 percent from the level in the same period of 1957, due to increased domestic production and wider use of competitive vegetable oils.

Imports from the United States declined 70 percent during this period, while imports from the Netherlands and Poland increased substantially. Higher U. S. lard prices in relation to European prices accounted for the decrease in the U. S. share of the West German market.

LARD: West Germany, imports by country of origin and percent of total,
January-June 1957 and 1958

Country of origin	Jan.-June 1957	Jan.-June 1958	Percent of total Jan.-June '57	Percent of total Jan.-June '58
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent	Percent
United States.....	15.34	4.65	47.6	17.7
Netherlands.....	8.80	9.88	27.3	37.7
Poland.....	.86	3.83	2.7	14.6
Denmark.....	1.32	2.95	4.1	11.2
France.....	1.72	2.84	5.3	10.8
Sweden.....	2.72	1.74	8.4	6.6
Others.....	1.48	.36	4.6	1.4
Total.....	32.24	26.25	100.0	100.0

Source: Federal Ministry for Food, Agriculture, and Forestry.

CHILE'S WOOL OUTPUT DOWN SLIGHTLY IN 1957-58

Chile's wool production during the 1957-58 season (October-September) is estimated at 47.3 million pounds, grease basis, compared with 47.7 million pounds in the previous season.

A smaller clip in Magallanes Province is responsible for the decline, as there has been no change in output of shorn and pulled wool in the rest of Chile. The 1957-58 output of shorn wool in Magallanes is estimated at 25.3 million pounds, and in the rest of Chile at 15.4 million. Average fleece weights for the two areas are 9.7 and 7.9 pounds, respectively. Production of pulled wool is about 6.6 million pounds.

Chilean raw wool exports in recent years have climbed sharply from 4.4 million pounds, actual weight, in 1955 to 15.7 million in 1956, and to 22.0 million in 1957.

URUGUAYAN MEAT PLANT CLOSES

Uruguayan meat exports have ceased for the time being because of the closing of the Castro meat-packing plant in Fray Bentos, operated by a Uruguayan firm. Reasons for the closing apparently were shortages of cattle, exchange and export regulations, and labor troubles.

Two other export packers--Swift and Armour--ceased operations last fall. The Swift de la Plata plant has since been taken over by the Uruguayan Government but is still not operating. The Anglo plant, a third export packer at Montevideo, has been closed temporarily but is scheduled to reopen September 15 to slaughter sheep for export to the United Kingdom.

During 1958, Uruguay has exported 15,000 tons of meat, of which the Castro plant shipped 6,000 tons. The remaining 9,000 tons were exported by Anglo.

U. S. imports of meat from Uruguay totaled only 4.3 million pounds during the first half of 1958. Of this, 2.7 million entered in January. Imports amounted to 11.5 million pounds during 1957.

WEST GERMAN MILK COW NUMBERS DECREASE

West Germany reported its milk cow numbers at 5.5 million head on June 3, 1958--a decrease of about 100,000 from the same date a year earlier. The drop was effected by the German program to eradicate tuberculosis. Under this program a federal milk subsidy equivalent to 32.5 cents per cwt. of milk is paid to farmers with non-tubercular herds or herds enrolled in the program.

U.S.S.R. BUYS
SWEDISH BUTTER

On August 21, Sweden contracted to sell 4.4 million pounds of butter to the U.S.S.R. The price will be approximately that which Sweden gets for exports to the United Kingdom (about 26 cents per pound).

DENMARK'S CHICKEN
NUMBERS UP

Denmark's chicken numbers were 29.8 million in April 1958, compared with 25.4 million in April 1957. This increase of 17 percent was the result of a heavier hatch rate in 1958, which brought numbers of pullets and cockerels up 35 percent. Hen numbers decreased slightly, from 12.0 to 11.8 million head.

Egg production during the first half of this year, at 108.7 million dozen, was down 2 percent from 110.9 million dozen in the first 6 months of 1957.

Egg exports for the first half of 1958 were 76.8 million dozen, 1.8 million less than in comparable 1957. Domestic consumption has apparently remained stable, since exports have declined at about the same rate as production. West Germany buys about 70 percent of Denmark's egg exports.

BRITAIN'S MILK COW NUMBERS REACH PEAK;
POULTRY NUMBERS STILL INCREASING

Britain's dairy cow numbers increased slightly from 2,503,000 head in June 1957 to 2,518,000 in June 1958. However, the number of bred heifers fell off 9 percent to 599,000 head, indicating that milk cow numbers may have reached their peak.

Bred cows for beef increased 6 percent to 90,000 head. The number of male calves also is higher, indicating continued emphasis on calf retentions for beef.

Because of an expansion in broiler production, total poultry numbers increased from 74 to 78 million.

INDIA ABOLISHES EXPORT DUTIES ON
ALL OILSEEDS AND VEGETABLE OILS

On August 23, India abolished the export duties on all oilseeds and vegetable oils in order to promote exports. Export duties on certain oilseeds and vegetable oils had been removed by government action on June 30 and July 9 (see Foreign Crops and Markets, July 14, 1958 and July 21, 1958).

NEW ZEALAND LIBERALIZES DRIED APRICOT IMPORTS

The New Zealand Government announced on August 8 that it will grant licenses, upon application, for the importation of dried apricots from the United States.

LARGE 1958 ARGENTINE PRUNE PACK DOWN IN QUALITY

Dried prune production in Argentina during 1958 rose to an estimated 8,800 short tons, 42 percent more than the 6,200-ton production of 1957. The quality, however, is reportedly below average because of hail injury during the growing season.

Competition of vintners for fresh grapes during 1958 is said to account for a reduction in the raisin and currant packs.

FRUIT, DRIED: Argentine production by type, 1954-58

Types	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Figs.....	1,400	1,700	1,400	1,400	1,700
Prunes.....	2,200	6,800	6,600	6,200	8,800
Raisins and currants.....	5,500	8,300	11,500	4,100	3,100

Argentina's principal dried fruit exports are prunes, raisins, and currants. Brazil is the largest importer of Argentine dried fruits, and West Germany next.

PRUNES, DRIED: Argentine exports by country of destination, 1956 and 1957, and January-June 1958

Country of destination	1956	1957	Jan.-June 1958
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Brazil.....	2,192	2,014	452
Denmark.....	436	---	---
Germany, West.....	1/	787	502
United Kingdom.....	36	253	222
Other.....	231	178	76
Total.....	2,895	3,232	1,252

1/ If any, included under "Other countries."

RAISINS AND CURRANTS: Argentine exports by country of destination, 1956 and 1957, and January-June 1958

Country of destination	1956	1957	Jan. - June 1958
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Belgium.....	1/	19	10
Bolivia.....	1/	25	--
Brazil.....	1,608	678	81
Paraguay.....	1/	36	1
United Kingdom.....	22	--	--
Other.....	135	7	--
Total.....	1,765	765	92

1/ If any, included under "Other countries."

ISRAELI CITRUS EXPORT
OUTLOOK GOOD

Israel will produce about 15 percent more citrus in 1958-59 than in the current 1957-58 season, according to Israeli sources. In spite of larger supplies, exports and domestic demand for fresh fruit will limit supplies available for processing.

In the 1957-58 season, citrus exporters have received a premium exchange rate of 2.050 Israeli pounds per U.S. dollar on the "added value," compared with the official rate of 1.800 Israeli pounds per U. S. dollar. The 1957-58 subsidy amounted to slightly less than 10 percent of the total export value. This subsidization of citrus exports will probably be continued in the 1958-59 season. Exporters are requesting an increase in the subsidy.

ESTIMATE FOR 1958 BRAZIL
NUT HARVEST RAISED

The above-average 1958 Brazil nut harvest is now estimated at about 40,000 short tons, in-shell basis. Earlier unofficial reports had placed it at 37,000 short tons. There was a bumper crop of 42,000 tons in 1957.

Brazil nut prices have improved in recent months, with shelled nut prices rising to 53 cents from 36-37 cents per pound f.o.b. at the beginning of the marketing season, and natural unshelled nuts climbing to 15 cents per pound from a low of 9 cents early in the season.

Nut sales appear to have been stimulated by an increase of over a third in the cruzeiro-U.S. dollar exchange rate, effective in June. There is also said to be more interest in special processes such as drying and polishing nuts.

ITALIAN WALNUT FORECAST REDUCED

The 1958 commercial walnut crop in Italy is now forecast at 28,000 short tons, unshelled, compared with the previous forecast of 33,000 tons. This would still be well above average (19,900 tons for the 5 years 1951-55) and more than double last year's very short crop of 13,000 tons. Sorrento walnuts are expected to account for 10,000 tons of the new crop, and other varieties 18,000 tons.

The harvest will probably be 2 or 3 weeks late; but quality and size are expected to be better than last season, when quality was considered very poor.

Italian walnut exports from September 1957 through May 1958 came to 9,100 short tons, unshelled basis. In 1956-57, they totaled 22,000 tons for the entire marketing year.

U. K. IMPORT PRICES FOR U. S. AND
COMMONWEALTH CANNED FRUIT QUOTED

Comparative prices for U. S. and Commonwealth canned deciduous fruit in the United Kingdom market, based upon information supplied by British trade sources, follow:

DECIDUOUS FRUIT, CANNED: C.i.f. prices, per dozen No. 2½ cans, for
United States and Commonwealth fruit in the United Kingdom market,
August 1958

Description	Australian	South African	United States
	U.S. dollars	U.S. dollars	U.S. dollars
Peaches:			
Halves (choice).....	4.06	---	---
" (standard).....	3.85	3.92	3.75 to 4.21
Sliced (standard).....	---	4.06	4.21
Pears (choice).....	3.99	---	---
" (standard).....	3.78	3.71	4.97
Fruit cocktail (standard).....	4.41	---	4.80
Apricots (choice).....	3.64	---	---
" (standard).....	3.43	3.08	---

All Australian and South African quotations are subject to a small unloading surcharge; all imported canned deciduous fruits, including U. S. fruits, are subject to a 2½-percent duty based upon sugar content.

SWITZERLAND TAKES MORE U.S. WHEAT BUT LESS FEED GRAINS IN 1957

Switzerland imported wheat worth \$12.6 million from the United States in 1957, compared with \$8.3 million in 1956. U. S. supplies represented 32 percent of Swiss imports of wheat last year.

Swiss imports of U.S. feed grains in 1957 were valued at \$8.7 million--down from \$13.7 million in 1956. Imports of U. S. barley, worth \$3.3 million in 1957, were 22 percent of total barley receipts; U. S. oats, worth \$2.9 million, were 32 percent of total oats imports; and \$2.2 worth of U.S. corn accounted for 35 percent of that market.

PORTUGAL UPGRADES QUALITY OF BREAD

Portugal's "Tipo Especial" and "Tipo Corrente" breads have been higher in quality since August 1. The third and highest-quality bread, "Tipo Extra", is still baked entirely from 72-percent-extraction wheat flour (flour that weighs 72 percent of the wheat from which it was made; the lower the percentage, the higher the quality).

Prior to August 1, 85 percent of the flour used in "Especial" bread was 72-percent-extraction wheat flour, and 15 percent was corn or rye flour. Proportions for "Corrente" bread were 80 and 20 percent, respectively. The Ministry of Economy decided that it would be in the public interest to upgrade the quality of these breads at no increase in cost. They are generally consumed by people in low income groups.

Effective August 1, the only difference between the two types of bread is in the quality of the wheat flour used. Portuguese bakers are now required to make "Especial" bread from 5 percent rye or corn flour and a balance of 78-percent-extraction wheat flour. "Corrente" bread is now made the same, except that the wheat flour is of 83-percent extraction.

The policy of the Portuguese Government during the past decade has been to make the country self-sufficient in wheat. A support price of 3 escudos per kilo (\$2.86 per bushel) is the main incentive to that end. As a result, production is increasing while imports are declining. Portuguese millers are thoroughly in favor of using U. S. hard winter wheat, not only to overcome seasonal deficits but as a continuous means of upgrading the quality of the flour.

Flour and bread prices are fixed by the government. The fixed retail prices for the three bread types are as follows: "Extra", 6.60 escudos (23.1 cents) per kilo of 2.2 pounds; "Especial", 4.40 escudos (15.4 cents) per kilo; and "Corrente", 3.30-3.40 escudos (11.6-11.9 cents) per kilo.

BRAZIL AND URUGUAY SIGN WHEAT TRADE AGREEMENT

Brazil and Uruguay have signed a trade agreement providing for annual exportation of 250,000 metric tons (9,186,000 bushels) of Uruguayan wheat to Brazil during the 3 calendar years 1958-1960.

This continues the trade plans which these countries began in December 1953 with a 3-year agreement providing for an exchange of \$38 million worth of goods annually, including large quantities of Uruguayan wheat and flour exports to be determined later.

Subsequent agreements fixed a total of at least 200,000 metric tons (grain equivalent) (7,349,000 bushels) for calendar 1954; 300,000 tons (11,023,000 bushels) each for 1955 and 1957; and 320,000 tons (11,758,000 bushels) for 1956. Uruguay's exports of wheat and flour to Brazil exceeded the goal in 1954, but fell short in 1955, 1956, and 1957.

WHEAT AND WHEAT FLOUR: Uruguay, exports to Brazil, 1954-57

Calendar year	Wheat	Flour, grain: equivalent	Total
	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.
1954.....	3,660	5,278	8,938
1955.....	6,222	3,758	9,980
1956.....	9,396	1,032	10,428
1957.....	3,130	574	3,704

ITALY'S 1959-60 SUPPORT PRICE FOR SOFT WHEAT TO BE LOWER

Though the Italian Council of Ministers fixed the officially guaranteed producer prices for compulsorily pooled wheat (required to be sold to the government) at the same levels for the 1958 as for the 1957 crop, it recently announced that the 1959-crop prices for soft wheat will be about 7.5 percent lower.

About 80 percent of Italy's production is soft wheat. The prices for durum, which comprises nearly all of the balance of 20 percent, were left unchanged. Both types are winter wheat.

For 1959-60, the soft wheat price will be 6,200 lire per quintal (\$2.70 per bushel) for northern and central Italy, excluding the provinces of Lazio, Abruzzi, and Grosseto. For 1957-58 and 1958-59 the price was 6,700 lire per quintal (\$2.92 per bushel).

Though no specific reports have been received regarding 1959-60 soft wheat prices for southern Italy (including Lazio, Abruzzi, and Grosseto but excluding Calabria and Lucania) and Sicily and Sardinia (including Calabria and Lucania), presumably these will also be 500 lire per quintal below the 1958-59 levels. Such a reduction would lower the soft wheat prices for these portions of the country from 6,950 and 7,200 lire per quintal (\$3.03 and \$3.14 per bushel) to 6,450 and 6,700 lire per quintal (\$2.81 and \$2.92 per bushel), respectively.

The 1959-60 prices for durum wheat are 8,050 lire per quintal (\$3.51 per bushel) for northern and central Italy; 8,300 lire (\$3.61 per bushel) for southern Italy; and 8,550 lire (\$3.72 per bushel) for Sicily and Sardinia (including Calabria and Lucania).

The 1959-60 averages for the entire country are 6,450 lire per quintal (\$2.81 per bushel) for soft wheat, compared with 6,950 lire (\$3.03 per bushel) for 1958-59 and 1957-58, and 8,300 lire per quintal (\$3.61 per bushel) for durum. The Italian Government has also announced that soft wheat prices will gradually be reduced further.

The government hopes that its price policy will reduce production of soft wheat, supplies of which have greatly exceeded domestic requirements, and encourage farmers to increase production of durum, which still must be imported in substantial quantities.

At the same time, the lowering of guaranteed producer prices for compulsorily pooled soft wheat will bring domestic prices more in line with lower world prices and thus avoid a burdensome government export subsidy. Better diets in Italy and a consequent decline in domestic consumption of soft wheat have contributed to the surplus of this type of wheat. Grain imports are closely controlled by the government.

The quantity of 1958-59 crop wheat which producers are required to pool is 1.2 million metric tons (44.1 million bushels), the same as for 1957-58. Farmers may sell the rest of the crop to private buyers at any price they are willing to accept. However, since they may also sell part or all of this balance to the government at the officially guaranteed prices, these prices generally operate as floor prices. The size of the pool for the 1959-60 crop has not yet been announced. Italy's wheat production from 1952-53 through 1956-57 is as follows:

Kind of wheat	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.
Soft.....	265.9	212.7	290.2	266.4	246.9
Durum.....	66.9	54.9	59.1	52.5	63.6
Total.....	332.8	267.6	349.3	318.9	310.5

HEAVY RAINS IMPROVE PAKISTAN'S RICE CROP

The arrival of heavy monsoon rains in Pakistan in early August improved the outlook for rice production in 1958-59. Rain fell in East Pakistan in time to benefit the late autumn crop about to be harvested, and to enable planting of the main crop. Rains in West Pakistan greatly helped land preparation and sowing operations.

However, it is still too early in the season to predict the size of the crop. The outcome will depend on weather from now through October. The present situation points to a normal crop.

The final official estimate of the 1957-58 rice crop is 28,541.8 million pounds of rough rice, 6 percent below production in 1956-57, but 2 percent above the average from 1950-51 through 1954-55. Rice acreage, estimated at 22,962,000 acres, increased slightly from 1956-57, but it was 2 percent less than in the 5-year period.

RICE (ROUGH): Pakistan's production, 1956-57 and 1957-58

Area	1956-57			1957-58		
	Acreage	Yield	Production	Acreage	Yield	Production
		per			per	
		acre	tion		acre	tion
	1,000		Million	1,000		Million
	acres	Pounds	pounds	acres	Pounds	pounds
East Pakistan:						
Autumn (aus).....	5,992:	1,212:	7,260.7:	5,787:	1,212:	7,011.9
Winter (aman).....	13,377:	1,455:	19,468.4:	13,632:	1,271:	17,332.9
Summer (boro).....	686:	1,162:	797.0:	816:	1,480:	1,207.3
Total.....	20,055:	1,373:	27,526.1:	20,235:	1,263:	25,552.1
West Pakistan.....	2,396:	1,150:	2,754.4:	2,727:	1,096:	2,989.7
All Pakistan.....	22,451:	1,349:	30,280.5:	22,962:	1,243:	28,541.8

Official estimates.

Some rice is grown in East Pakistan in nearly every month of the year. The growing periods vary with climate, rainfall, and varieties adapted to local conditions. Broadly speaking, East Pakistan grows 3 crops a year. The autumn, or "aus", crop--about 25 percent of annual production--is planted in May, transplanted 3 to 4 weeks later, and harvested from August to October. The main winter, or "aman", crop--about 71 percent of total production--is planted or transplanted from July to September and harvested in December and January. The spring, or "boro", crop is planted in December, transplanted in January, and harvested in April.

Rice imports into Pakistan in the first half of 1958 were 222,089 metric tons, well above the 140,890 tons imported in the same period of 1957. Forty-seven percent of imports were from Burma, 42 percent from the United States, and 11 percent from Thailand. Around 57,000 metric tons contracted for import in the first half of the year are yet to be imported.

RICE (MILLED): Pakistan, arrivals by country of origin,
January-June 1958, with comparisons

Country of origin	1956	1957	January-June 1/	
			1957	1958
	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons
Burma.....	113,102	142,335	24,653	105,656
China.....	64,134	0	0	0
Italy.....	2/	20,371	20,371	0
South Vietnam.....	2/	29,857	0	0
Thailand.....	24,507	63,343	2,530	23,397
United States.....	204,961	176,337	93,336	93,036
Other countries.....	34,309	0	0	0
Total.....	441,013	432,243	140,890	222,089

1/ Preliminary. 2/ If any, included in other countries.

Compiled from official sources.

Import requirements of rice in the last half of 1958 are estimated at 300,000 metric tons. Imports are expected from Burma and Thailand, and the Pakistan Government hopes rice will continue to be imported from the United States under Public Law 480. Under a barter agreement with Communist China, Pakistan is to import 100,000 metric tons of rice for raw cotton and jute.

U.K. HARVESTING WEATHER UNFAVORABLE

Wet weather in the United Kingdom during July and August has delayed harvesting, especially in the south, and grain supply is likely to be poor. Operations are about 3 weeks later than normal in most areas.

Heavy rain and high winds have flattened large areas of grain, with barley and oats affected the worst. With harvests delayed and much of the crop becoming overripe, there is danger of loss from shedding and birds. Harvesting will not only be late but appears likely to be costly since many fields have been flattened by the rains. After harvesting, the bulk of the grain must be dried, and drying plants are likely to be overloaded.

THAI RICE EXPORTS DOWN IN FIRST HALF OF 1958

Exports of milled rice from Thailand in the first half of 1958 were 704,273 metric tons, 17 percent less than in the same months of 1957. Exports to 3 areas—the Federation of Malaya, Indonesia, and Hong Kong—accounted for three-fifths of total shipments.

RICE (MILLED): Thai exports, January-June, 1957 and 1958

Country of destination	January-June		Country of destination	January-June	
	1957	1958		1957	1958
	Metric tons	Metric tons		Metric tons	Metric tons
Asia:			Europe:		
Arabian States.....	61,561	24,544	Belgium.....	900	3,900
Other West Asia.....	5,557	2,150	Germany, West.....	7,900	13,635
British Borneo.....	27,370	25,602	Netherlands.....	37,830	31,653
Ceylon.....	37,900	200	United Kingdom....	14,071	14,565
Hong Kong.....	99,533	93,441	Greece.....	1,148	367
Indonesia.....	116,319	114,200	Africa:		
Japan.....	116,360	34,292	East Africa.....	8,903	10,300
Korea.....	33,230	0	South Africa.....	7,650	1,541
Malaya.....	74,642	74,156	West Africa.....	8,488	8,101
Singapore.....	129,522	137,249	Mauritius.....	1,623	10,475
Pakistan.....	9,500	8,700	Other Africa.....	4,941	1,500
Philippines.....	24,150	36,009	West Indies.....	0	34,440
Ryukyu Islands.....	12,250	15,700	Other countries.....	6,261	901
Oceania.....	4,398	6,652	Total.....	852,007	704,273

Source: East Asiatic Company.

Rice exports to most importing countries declined in the first half of 1958. The West Indies Federation, however, took 34,440 tons, whereas no Thai rice was sent to that area in January-June 1957. Singapore, the Philippines, Mauritius, Belgium, and West Germany have also increased their imports substantially this year.

CANADIAN GRAIN CROP SMALLER

Canada's 1958 grain crop is slightly below the 1957 harvest, according to the official August forecast. A smaller wheat crop is partly offset by increases in barley and oats.

Per-acre yields appear larger than extended drought had indicated. Current yields are exceeding those in 1957, except for spring wheat, which average 10 percent less. Winter wheat yields are up sharply.

Wheat production, forecast at 339 million bushels, is 9 percent less than the small 1957 crop and 31 percent below the average of the past 10 years. As now forecast, the outturn will be the smallest since 1947, with the exception of 1954 when rust reduced the crop sharply and yields averaged only 13 bushels per acre. The present forecast comprises 23.8 million bushels of winter wheat and 314.9 million of spring wheat. Included in the spring wheat estimate is 15.3 million bushels of durum, compared with 44.1 million last year.

The rye harvest is forecast at 8 million bushels, 6 percent below last year's outturn of 8.5 million bushels. The crop is less than half the 1948-57 average of 16.8 million and is the smallest since 1945. Rye acreage is also less than half the average of the past 10 years.

Oats production is forecast at 384 million bushels, little change from 1957, but 5 percent below the 10-year average. Yields are estimated at 34.8 bushels per acre, compared with 34.5 last year. Record yields in Ontario this year were an important factor in the high average, since yields in most other areas were less than last year.

Barley production is forecast at an above-average 229 million bushels, 6 percent above the 1957 harvest. A slight increase in acreage and higher yields account for the increase over 1957 production.

Mixed grains are forecast at about 64 million bushels, slightly more than last year. Better yields account for the increase, with acreage slightly below 1957.

GRAIN: Canadian acreage and production, 1957-and 1958

Crop	Area		Yield per acre			Production		
	1957	1958	1957	1958	1/	1957	1958	1/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels		1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	
Winter wheat.....	590	580	33.2	41.0		19,588	23,780	
Spring wheat.....	20,441	20,319	17.2	15.5		350,920	314,948	
All wheat.....	21,031	20,899	17.6	16.2		370,508	338,728	
Oats for grain...	11,017	11,039	34.5	34.8		380,599	384,082	
Barley.....	9,403	9,548	23.0	24.0		215,993	228,859	
Rye.....	551	521	15.5	15.4		8,539	8,026	
Mixed grains.....	1,452	1,422	43.6	44.8		63,292	63,681	

1/ Preliminary forecast.

From reports of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

MEXICAN POULTRY INDUSTRY CONTINUES RAPID GROWTH

In response to strong demand, Mexican broiler meat production is expected to reach about 13 million pounds in 1958, up sharply from about 11 million pounds estimated for 1957. Another large increase is likely in 1959. Because of a shortage of meat-type chicks, however, many of the so-called broilers are laying-breed cockerels, the by-product of an expanding hatching industry.

Prices for chicks and broilers have been high through June 1958. Prices of live broilers in Mexico City rose to about 36 U. S. cents per pound. Consumers have shown some resistance to increased prices for dressed broilers, which have been selling in supermarkets for about 61 U. S. cents per pound.

Egg production reached a peak in February 1958, and localized surpluses developed during the first quarter. Production has been slowly decreasing since March, and eggs are expected to be in short supply by the last quarter, raising prices somewhat. This decline is attributed to the low replacement rate of layer chicks during the last quarter of 1957. Total output for 1958 is expected to about equal the 1957 level of 2.7 billion eggs. Production in 1959 may increase slightly.

Sharp decreases in imports of eggs and poultry products have resulted from the import permit policies, in effect since 1957. Permits for importation of hatching eggs were liberally granted until February 1958, but have recently been granted for limited quantities after careful justification.

Mexican poultry imports for the first 6 months of 1957 and 1958 are as follows:

		January-June 1957	January-June 1958
Chicks	(1,000 head)	5,204	548
Hens	(1,000 head)	500	168
Other poultry	(1,000 head)	136	438
Eggs, shell	(1,000 dozen)	1,915	494
Egg yolks	(1,000 pounds)	287	119
Poultry meat	(1,000 pounds)	241	166

The increase in imports of "other poultry" occurred in the border "free zones" and is believed to have been mostly breeding stock. All imports of poultry products are expected to continue their decrease during the last 6 months of 1958. However, shortages of broilers and broiler chicks may result in some imports of eggs until the domestic breeding flocks can supply demand for poultry meat.

Mexico's 51 commercial hatcheries now have a capacity of 50 million chicks per year, but 1958 production is only expected to total 13 million chicks. Production in 1957 was estimated at only 7 million chicks.

There are 25 incubator centers being operated by the government, in addition to those of commercial hatcheries. These government plants have about 140,000 breeding hens, predominately laying types. Production in these hatcheries in 1958 is expected to total about 5 million chicks. This hatch is generally sold to small farmers at prices well below cost, and does not compete directly with chicks from commercial hatcheries.

U.S.S.R. ASKS JAPAN TO IMPORT SOYBEAN MEAL

The U.S.S.R. is reportedly asking Japan to import 25,000 metric tons of soybean meal in order to adjust the countries' trade balance.

In the past, Japanese policy has been to import soybeans instead of soybean meal, and to produce their own meal at domestic crushing mills. However, the Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry has indicated that soybean meal imports may have to be accepted if Japan wants to promote exports to the U.S.S.R. The Ministry of Agriculture, on the other hand, is opposed to imports of soybean meal on the basis that they will hurt the domestic crushing industry. No decision has yet been reached.

ANTARCTIC CATCHER BOAT LIMIT SET FOR 1958-59

Norway, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands have agreed to restrict the number of catcher boats to be used in the coming Antarctic pelagic whaling season to 215, one more than in the 1957-58 season. The number of expeditions and catchers used during 1957-58 and planned for 1958-59 are:

Country	Expeditions	Catcher boats	
		1957-58	1958-59
Norway.....	9	95	95
Japan.....	6	68	69
United Kingdom.....	3	37	37
Netherlands.....	1	14	14
Total.....	19	214	215

As in previous years, the Soviet Union has refused to enter into an agreement limiting the number of catcher boats.

TURKISH GOVERNMENT FREES FILBERT EXPORT PRICES

The Turkish Government has announced another important change in its filbert export policy: the 1958 crop of filberts will not be subject to minimum export prices. This decision follows the recent devaluation of the lira from 2.80 to 5.60 per U. S. dollar applicable to filbert exports.

Neither the devaluation nor the removal of minimum prices has yet affected the export price level of Turkish filberts. New-crop Giresun kernels are being offered at 40.3 cents per pound f.o.b. Turkey for September-October shipment and at 39.7 cents per pound for November-December shipment. The minimum export price for the 1957-58 season was 46.3 cents per pound f.o.b. Turkey for Giresun kernels. However, sales were being made during most of the 1957-58 season at prices ranging around 39 cents.

VENEZUELA'S SESAME SEED SUPPLY DOWN IN 1958

Venezuela's 1958 supply of sesame seed is forecast at 37,300 short tons, down 15 percent from 1957 although carryin stocks were notably larger than last year's. A sharp decline in imports and a smaller domestic outturn account for the forecast decline. However, crushings in 1958 are expected to be larger than those of last year, with a resultant stock reduction of more than one-half.

SESAME SEED: Venezuela, estimated supply and distribution,
annual 1956-58

Item	1956	1957	1958 <u>1/</u>
	<u>Short tons</u>	<u>Short tons</u>	<u>Short tons</u>
Supply:			
Opening stocks, Jan. 1 <u>2/</u> ...	3,854	1,050	15,280
Production.....	14,330	23,175	19,840
Imports.....	3,226	19,988	2,200
Total supply.....	21,410	44,213	37,320
Distribution:			
Apparent crushing <u>3/</u>	20,275	28,835	31,000
Seed <u>4/</u>	85	98	90
Ending stocks <u>2/</u>	1,050	15,280	6,230
Total distribution.....	21,410	44,213	37,320

1/ Forecast. 2/ Residual figures. 3/ Derived from official oil production figures. 4/ Estimated.

Venezuela's sesame seed oil production in 1957 totaled 13,540 tons, an increase of over 40 percent from 1956. The estimated crush for 1958 will yield around 14,500 tons of oil.

Sesame seed imports in 1957 totaled 19,988 tons, compared with only 3,226 tons in 1956. In 1957 Sudan supplied over one-half of the total imports and French West Africa--the principal origin of imports in 1956--supplied over one-third.

SESAME SEED: Venezuela, imports by country of origin,
annual 1956 and 1957

Country of origin	1956	1957 ^{1/}
	<u>Short tons</u>	<u>Short tons</u>
United States.....	282	90
El Salvador.....	17	---
Guatemala.....	---	445
Nicaragua.....	134	427
Argentina.....	---	8
Colombia.....	346	1,143
Belgian Congo.....	---	275
French West Africa.....	2,447	7,305
Sudan.....	---	10,295
Total.....	3,226	19,988

^{1/} Preliminary.

Compiled from official sources.

EGYPT REDUCES COTTON EXPORT TAX

Effective September 1, 1958, Egypt reduced the export tax on extra-long staple cotton from 11 tallaris per kantar (6.37 U. S. cents per pound) to 7 tallaris per kantar (4.05 U. S. cents per pound). The tax on shorter staples was not changed.

The guaranteed prices to cotton growers for the 1958-59 crop will be the same as in the 2 previous years:

<u>Variety</u>	<u>Tallaris per kantar</u>	<u>U. S. cents per pound</u>
Karnak G/FG	69	39.93
Menoufi G/FG	64	37.04
Giza 30 Good	59	34.14
Dandara	57	32.99
Ashmouni	55	31.83

PAKISTAN REDUCES EXPORT TAX ON DESI COTTON

The Government of Pakistan reduced the export tax on the 1958-59 crop of Desi cotton from 80 rupees per bale (4.29 U.S. cents per pound) to 50 rupees per bale (2.68 cents per pound), effective September 1, 1958. Export taxes on other varieties of Pakistani cotton remain unchanged at 115 rupees per bale (6.16 cents per pound).

U. S. COTTON IMPORTS DOWN IN JUNE

U.S. imports of cotton (for consumption) were equivalent to 2,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in June 1958, compared with May imports of 4,000 bales. Most of the June imports consisted of short-staple harsh or rough Asiatic-type cotton from India, with smaller quantities from Pakistan.

Imports during August-June 1957-58 totaled 140,000 bales, in comparison with 82,000 bales in the corresponding 1956-57 period.

For the current quota year, beginning August 1, 1958, the U. S. import quota for long-staple cotton (1-1/8 inches or more) was 99 percent filled as of September 4. This quota allows imports of 45.7 million pounds of long-staple cotton (equivalent to about 95,000 bales of 500 pounds gross).

The new quota is subdivided into 3 categories, largely on the basis of staple length, as follows: (1) extra long staple, 1-3/8 inches or more, 39,590,778 pounds (equivalent to 82,481 bales); (2) ordinary long staple, 1-1/8 inches to 1-11/32 inches, 4,565,642 pounds (9,512 bales); and (3) "Tanguis", which is a harsh or rough cotton stapling 1-5/32 inches to 1-3/8 inches, 1,500,000 pounds (3,125 bales). By September 4, the quota for ordinary long staple and extra long staple cotton had been filled and 2,000 bales of Tanguis had been imported.

U.S. LINTERS IMPORTS UP IN JUNE

U.S. imports of cotton linters, mostly felting qualities, were 10,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in June 1958. This was an increase of 43 percent from May imports of 7,000 bales, and of 67 percent from June 1957 imports of 6,000 bales. Imports during August-June 1957-58 were 136,000 bales, against 131,000 bales in the same period a year earlier.

Principal sources of linters imports during August-June 1957-58, with comparable 1956-57 figures in parentheses, were: Mexico 99,000 bales (84,000); U.S.S.R. 19,000 (32,000); El Salvador 4,000 (2,000); Belgium 4,000 (2,000); Iran 2,000 (0); Brazil 2,000 (4,000); and Syria 2,000 (2,000).

INDIA ALLOWS ADDITIONAL COTTON EXPORTS

The Government of India announced on August 20, 1958, that 40,000 bales (400 pounds gross) of cotton, all varieties up to and including 3/4-inch staple, would be released for export. Licenses will be granted only to those exporters who have exported Indian cotton in the 5 years ending June 30, 1958. Licenses will be issued on a first-come-first-served basis, with individual quotas subject to a ceiling of 4,000 bales. This cotton must be exported by October 31, 1958.

This is the second export quota announced for the 1958-59 (August-July) season, bringing the total to 90,000 bales.

The government also announced that there would be free export licensing during 1958-59 for Assam Comillas and Zoda cotton, cotton pickings, sweepings, and yellow pickings. These exports may be made to all permissible destinations with the exceptions of Tibet and the Portuguese possessions.

JAPAN IMPORTS U.S. SOYBEANS FOR FEED

Japan imported 10,754 metric tons of U.S. soybeans between April 1 and June 30 as part of planned imports of 70,000 metric tons for feed use during the Japanese fiscal year beginning April 1. (Soybeans imported for feed use are crushed for edible oil and meal; only the latter is used for animal feed.) The cost, including freight, ranged from \$93.60 to \$96.30 per ton, or \$2.55 to \$2.62 per bushel.

The Japanese planned to buy another 19,000 tons by the end of September, 10,000 to be shipped in September and 9,000 tons in October. Soybean imports for feed use since April 1, 1956, have been as follows:

Source	: April-March : 1956-57	: April-March : 1957-58	: April-June : 1958
	: Metric : tons	: Metric : tons	: Metric : tons
United States.....	83,202	37,314	10,754
Communist China.....	1,049	27,197	---
Total.....	84,251	64,511	10,754

Apart from the planned soybean imports for feed, and imports of 100,000 tons of beans for processing into oil for export, the Japanese Government plans to import 600,000 tons of beans in the year which began April 1 (see Foreign Crops and Markets, August 18, 1958).

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